



DUMFRIES, VIRGINIA
Virginia's Oldest Continuously Chartered Town
CHARTERED 1749 INCORPORATED 1961

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To: Town Council
From: Cydney A. Neville, MAEd, Director of Community Services
Date: March 28, 2012
Re: Department of Community Services March Staff Report

Priorities:

- Creating a curriculum for the Summer Employment Program
 - I am in the process of restructuring this program, to include the development/design of a Summer Employment Curriculum, based on the Virginia Department of Education's Standards of Learning (SOL's). Changes will also be made to this program: eligibility requirements, delivery, structure and overall program components, in an effort to deliver a quality program to our youth that will reflect positively on the Town.
- Planning for the Multicultural Festival
 - The committee is meeting regularly to plan for a successful event! The event has been advertised through local media outlets.
- Town of Dumfries Farmer's Market
 - There have been a few committee meetings on this. Plans are to have a Farmer's Market in the Town Hall Parking Lot.
 - This has been changed to a Summer Market, planning will be finalized in April.
- Summer Kickball!!! Registration information will be finalized in early April, and will begin in late April. Kickball will be played at Garrison Open Space on Saturday evenings beginning in May and will end in June.
- Recruitment of Volunteers-this will be on-going.

Summer Youth Employment Program:

- The Summer Youth Employment Program is currently in its final planning stages (as of the date of this report). Applications will be available in early April.
- This year's program will run from July 9, 2012-August 17, 2012 and will provide a comprehensive experience in local government for six youth citizens of the Town of Dumfries!

Senior Luncheon:

- The March Senior Luncheon was a success, participants enjoyed playing Bingo! They also received information on establishing wills and trusts from Atty. Mary Shufelt, whom we hope to have join us at a future meeting.

- The April meeting will be held on Friday, April 20, 2012! The April Luncheon will feature an “Ice Cream Social with Town Council Candidates!”

Today’s Empowered Women Program:

The Town hosted the “Today’s Empowered Women” program on Saturday, March 24, 2012. The event featured a panel of phenomenal women with a wealth of information to be shared with women (and men) in the community! However, attendance was very low for this event, so alternative marketing solutions will need to be researched in time for a Women’s History Month event next year.

Parenting Class:

The office of Virginia Cooperative Extension has been impressed with the turnout for our current Parenting Class. In fact, they have decided to continue their partnership with the Town of Dumfries, to offer the STEP class for parents of teens beginning April 18-May 30, 2012! Classes will be offered from 7:00pm-9:00pm. The cost will remain \$40 per individual/couple. Please contact the Cooperative Extension at 703.792.6288 to register for this class!

English as a Second Language:

The ESOL class has been consistently growing, since we partnered with the Literacy Volunteers of America-Prince William County. Mrs. Sonia Hoehn has been doing an exceptional job as our volunteer teacher for this class, and is a pleasure to work with.

Easter Egg Hunt:

The Dumfries Triangle Rescue Squad donated 600 toy filled eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt, scheduled for April 7th at 11:00am in Merchant Park! This event is sure to be fun for all youth who attend, as they will get to collect eggs, meet the Easter Bunny, have their faces painted, and receive a toy!

Multicultural Festival:

We are currently accepting Vending applications for the Multicultural Festival. In addition, we are accepting applications for Community Performers. This is not to be confused with the “Dumfries has Talent” feature of the Fall Festival, but an opportunity for local performers to share their talent during the event.

Grants:

DCJS-JAGB Grant-The *Frontline* Program has officially been closed out, as of March 16, 2012. The application for continuation will be reviewed at the DCJS Board Meeting on May 10, 2012. At that time, we will know the outcome of the application; if approved, we will be able to move forward with *Dumfries Cares!*

Community Partnerships

- Literacy Volunteers of America-Prince William County-ESL classes
- Virginia Cooperative Extension-PWC-Parenting classes, 4-H resource, nutrition resource
- Mahogany Books-Kids Literature Corner (www.mahoganybooks.com)

- Big Sis & Company- (www.bigsisandcompany.net) This company is focused on domestic violence prevention. Their CEO was a guest speaker at the Town's Black History Month Celebration! They will be hosting a few domestic violence prevention programs in the community center. March-Today's Empowered Woman Conference.
- Sonia Hoehn-ESL Instructor, but has also donated books to the Learning Center.
- Emoni's-donates samples for seniors.
- Weems Botts/Historic Dumfries-Mrs. Barron has given presentations at some of our Senior Luncheon's and was also a guest speaker at the Town's Black History Month Celebration.